DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 374 560 EA 026 139

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TITLE	Something Borrowed, Something Learned? The Transatlantic Market in Education and Training Reform.
INSTITUTION	Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.
REPORT NO	ISBN-0-8157-2803-4
PUB DATE	93
NOTE	261p.
AVAILABLE FROM	The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20306 (clothbound: ISBN-0-8157-2804-2; paperback: ISBN-0-8157-2803-4).
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Viewpoints (Opinion/Position Papers, Essays, etc.) (120)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	*Adoption (Ideas); Case Studies; *Cultural Exchange; *Educational Policy; Foreign Countries; Information Utilization; International Educational Exchange; Job Skills; *Job Training; Labor Force Development; Policy Formation; Vocational Education

ABSTRACT

The concentration of numerous case studies of British appropriation of U.S. education and training (ET) policies in a brief period of time (1986-90) provides a unique opportunity to improve understanding of the ET reform process and the role that international comparisons can play in shaping the domestic ET policy agenda. In this book, political science and education experts consider Britain's policy borrowing from the United States during the final years of the Thatcher government. The contributors look at American programs that have served as models for the United Kingdom, including magnet schools, school choice experiments, business-education compacts, and the federal student loan program. The book maintains that despite problems associated with transplanting one nation's policies into another country's historical and institutional setting, international borrowing is likely to become more common. In part 1, authors draw from various social science resources to create an analytical framework for the study of policy borrowing. Articles include: (1) "Introduction" (David Finegold, Laurel McFarland, and William Richardson); (2) "Borrowing Educational Policy" (David Phillips); and (3) "The Politics of Policy Borrowing" (David Brian Robertson and Jerold L. Waltman). Part 2 examines the specific context in which the transfer of policies has occurred. It includes: (4) "The Changing International Economy and Its Impact on Education and Training" (David Finegold); (5) "Postschool Training of British and American Youth" (Hong W. Tan and Christine Peterson); (6) "USA and UK Government Policy in Youth Training for the New International Economy: Lessons from Abroad" (Sarah H. Cleveland); and (7) "Education and Training for 16-18 Year Olds in the UK and USA" (David Raffe and Russell W. Rumberger). Part 3 examines individual cases of ET reforms in the United States and United Kingdom. Articles include (8) "The Mission of TECs and Private Sector Involvement in Training: Lessons from Private Industry Councils" (Thomas Bailey); (9) "Employers as an Instrument of School Reform? Education-Business 'Compacts' in Britain and America"

(William Richardson); (10) "Top-up Student Loans: American Models of Student Aid and British Public Policy" (Laurel McFarland); (11) "Magnet Schools, Choice, and the Politics of Policy Borrowing" (Anthony G. Green); and (12) "Choice and Market Forces in American Education: A Revolution or a Non-event?" (William Lowe Boyd). Notes on contributors and references are included. (LMI)

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